

SUGGESTED CHANGES TO PROPOSED STATEMENT OF WORK

The following suggested changes, Tab A, are keyed to the suggested draft from [redacted] dated 28 October 1981, which is also attached as

Tab B:

[1] "All tasks funded will be accomplished by the contractor under the staff supervision of _____."

[2] "... Committee and [redacted] Technical Director, FTD. [redacted] Director, FBIS, will designate FBIS personnel as points of contact."

[3] "This will permit CIA offices to query the CTS file on a direct, on-line basis."

[4] We believe this sentence should be deleted. Though 5 pages is the official threshold for CTS entries, in practice it is closer to 3 pages. Any savings realized from eliminating duplication of short translations will be offset by the higher costs of inputting and storage/retrieval of the shorter translations. The proposal should stand on grounds of increased efficiency, not on the basis of cost savings.

[5] "These are functions that were never envisaged for CTS, which operates primarily as a translation reference service designated to prevent duplicate translations. Yet there appears to be a requirement, at least among the S&T analysts of the Intelligence Community, for improvements in search and retrieval of translations."

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[6] "However, its value to analysts is diminished by the fact that there is no central depository for all intelligence-related translations, translation indexing by key word is frequently poor or nonexistent, and retrospective search is cumbersome and time-consuming."

[7] "Current plans are not yet firm for the SAFE System to include JPRS and other translations not distributed by electrical means." (There is some long-range planning for CRT's to convert the JPRS file to machine language for storage and retrieval. [redacted] can fill you in on the status of this planning.)

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[8] "While CTS automation will permit indexing of all but the shortest translations, there remains a need for closer coordination among IC entities that are exploiting the same foreign source literature." (The remaining underlined portion should, in our opinion, be deleted. Separate initiatives are being taken to promote talks between FBIS and FTD.)

[9] "However, adding storage, search and retrieval capabilities to CTS itself would so radically change the nature and scope of its activities that its affiliation with FBIS could no longer be sustained."

[10] "1. Develop a detailed proposal for an Intelligence Community open source translation depository with the capability for real-time key-word retrospective search and retrieval and for providing current awareness services.

Since CTS is the only comprehensive translation data file in the U.S. Government, it should be assumed that such a centralized depository would incorporate the CTS data base. Options for removing CTS from FBIS should be explored with a specific recommendation on organizational affiliation adduced. Proposal should include provision for on-line links between the central depository (CD) and major IC components engaged in translation activities (CIA/FBIS, the five STIISP agencies, DIA, NSA, State and Army/ITAC) in order to facilitate entry of translation data into the centralized depository, querying the CD file, and retrospective search and retrieval. It should also consider the feasibility of extending on-line links and retrospective search and retrieval services to major non-IC users. Finally, there should be an examination of possible relationships with more limited U. S. Government translation depositories. (30 percent)"

[11] "The costing should factor in any possible savings to the Intelligence Community that would result from potentially reduced translation duplication and possible absorption of the functions of CTS and FTD's XLAX activity. (30 percent)"

[12] "Security considerations that might obstruct access by other agencies (IC as well as non-IC) to an automated central depository file. (Note: CTS plans . . .)"

ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP

Date
28 October 1981

Ea

TO: (Name, office symbol, room number,
building, Agency/Post)

Initials

Date

1. AD/FBIS

1005 Key

2. 3. 4. 5.

Action	File	Note and Return
Approval	For Clearance	Per Conversation
As Requested	For Correction	Prepare Reply
Circulate	For Your Information	See Me
Comment	Investigate	Signature
Coordination	Justify	

REMARKS

John:

at a recent meeting with Pereira, broached the question of a contractor study to explore the possibility of expanding CTS capabilities. In this connection, we have prepared a draft work statement for a contractor study to be funded by the IC Staff (attached). While the availability of FY 82 funding is still in doubt, we need to pass the work statement up to who is interested in proceeding in FY 82, and would feel more comfortable about it if FBIS would first review and comment on the draft. If possible, please provide us with your comments by COB 6 November.

Many thanks,

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